PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
PU030312	International filing date (day/month/year)	Priority date (day/month/year)
International application No.	21 January 2004 (21.01.2004)	28 January 2003 (28.01.2003)
PCT/US04/01528		

International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC

IPC(7): H04N 7/12 and US Cl.: 375/240.25, 240.27; 725/101

Applicant

THOMSOM LICENSING S.A.

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of ⅔ sheets, including this cover sheet.

3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:

   a. ☐ (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of ___ sheets, as follows:

   ☐ sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).

   ☐ sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.

   b. ☐ (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s))

   _____ , containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

   ☒ Box No. I   Basis of the report

   ☐ Box No. II   Priority

   ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

   ☐ Box No. IV   Lack of unity of invention

   ☒ Box No. V   Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

   ☐ Box No. VI   Certain documents cited

   ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application

   ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
26 August 2004 (26.08.2004)	22 February 2005 (22.02.2005)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/ US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: IPEA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Authorized officer Vu Le Telephone No. 703-305-4700

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Box No. I   Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

    ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____ , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

        ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))

        ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)

        ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:

    ☒ the international application as originally filed/furnished

    ☒ the description:
        pages 1-41   as originally filed/furnished
        pages* NONE   received by this Authority on _____
        pages* NONE   received by this Authority on _____

    ☒ the claims:
        pages 42-52   as originally filed/furnished
        pages* NONE   as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
        pages* NONE   received by this Authority on _____
        pages* NONE   received by this Authority on _____

    ☒ the drawings:
        pages 1-10   as originally filed/furnished
        pages* NONE   received by this Authority on _____
        pages* NONE   received by this Authority on _____

    ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

        ☐ the description, pages_____
        ☐ the claims, Nos_____
        ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs_____
        ☐ the sequence listing *(specify)*: _____
        ☐ any table(s) related to the sequence listing *(specify)*:_____

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

        ☐ the description, pages_____
        ☐ the claims, Nos_____
        ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs_____
        ☐ the sequence listing *(specify)*: _____
        ☐ any table(s) related to the sequence listing *(specify)*:_____

* *If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."*

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

| Novelty (N) | Claims 1-55 | YES |
| | Claims NONE | NO |

| Inventive Step (IS) | Claims 1-55 | YES |
| | Claims NONE | NO |

| Industrial Applicability (IA) | Claims 1-55 | YES |
| | Claims NONE | NO |

2. Citations and Explanations (Rule 70.7)

Claims 1-55 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(3), because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest the technical features of staggercasting by source encoding two versions of signals representing content to generate respectively corresponding first and second successive independent decoding segments, generating a composite signal comprising the two encoded signals wherein the first encoded signal being delayed with respect to the second encoded signal, and wherein, if a error is detected in the composite signal during decoding a portion of an independent decoding segment of the delayed first encoded signal, decoding the corresponding independent decoding segment of the received second encoded signal to reproduce the content, otherwise, decoding the received delayed first encoded signal to reproduce the content.

------------------ NEW CITATIONS ------------------

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